

Auziell Schicker is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Auziell Schicker is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Auziell Schicker for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING RODERICK OLSON

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor a man who served California's Central Coast and the United States as a Marine and a public servant. Roderick Olson, a proud veteran of the Vietnam War from Santa Cruz, California passed away but left a legacy in place for LGBT Californians and service members.

Roderick Olson arrived in Santa Cruz in 1997 after serving in Vietnam. During his time in Santa Cruz, he dedicated his time to serving the community, especially his brothers and sisters in the LGBT community. He joined the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz AIDS project, focused on a community-based response towards reducing the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Roderick also served as a coordinator at the Santa Cruz Diversity Center, a member of the Pride Committee, the Program Committee and the Executive Committee. Further, he focused his time on protecting individuals from domestic violence and founded the 60 Plus program to support LGBT seniors.

Additionally, he established the first gay veterans group in the Santa Cruz region dedicated towards supporting LGBT service members. Roderick dedicated his life towards assisting LGBT veterans prior to the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell, helping future LGBT service members serve openly.

Mr. Olson passed late last year and will be interred with military honors this week at the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. However, his life and dedication to the Central Coast will not be forgotten. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Roderick Olson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on June 13, 2017, I inadvertently voted Nay on Roll Call No. 307 (On Passage of S. 1094, the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017). My intention was to vote Yea.

KATY POLICE OFFICER NAMED MISS TEXAS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Shannon Dresser of Katy for winning the Miss Texas 2017 title.

Shannon has been competing in pageants since she was 12 years-old, and has competed in 15 overall. As Miss Texas, Shannon has partnered with the Teen and Police Services Academy, to help with their mentoring program to reduce the social gap between police officers and at risk youth. This organization is important to Shannon as she is a police officer for the Katy Independent School District. Being a fourth generation police officer, Shannon continues to take steps to help and motivate people.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Shannon Dresser for being named Miss Texas. Her work to encourage and motivate kids, while keeping our community safe is an inspiration. Great work.

HONORING COLONEL ABRAHAM S. CONN

HON. CARLOS CURBELO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Colonel Abraham S. Conn on his retirement. COL Abraham S. Conn was commissioned through the ROTC at Canisius College located in Buffalo, NY, in May 1987, where he first entered the United States Army.

COL Conn is a graduate of State University of New York at Buffalo State College and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. COL Conn also holds a Masters in Strategic Studies and is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College, Class of 2010, located in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

COL Conn was originally branched as a Military Intelligence Officer. He has attended the Military Intelligence Officer Basic Course, the Quartermaster Officer Advance Course, the Air Defense Officer Transition Course, the Command and General Staff College, and the Pre-Command Courses.

COL Conn has either Commanded or held duty positions at the Platoon, Company, Battalion, Brigade, Division, Corps, and Joint-Staff levels. COL Conn has completed three, 1-year deployments to Afghanistan, of Operations Enduring Freedom.

Some of COL Conn's awards include the Bronze Star Medal 2nd Award, the Meritorious Service 2nd Award Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal 2nd Award, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal 5th Award, the National Defense Service Medal 2nd Award, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Overseas Service ribbon, the

Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon 3rd Award, the NATO Medal for Service in Afghanistan 2nd Award, the Florida Cross, the Florida State Distinguished Service Medal, the Florida State Commendation Medal, the Florida State Active Duty Ribbon, the New York Long and Faithful Service Medal, the New York State Counter-Drug Service Medal and the Mississippi Emergency Service Medal.

COL Conn is also the recipient of the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the Florida Governors Meritorious Unit 3rd Award.

COL Conn recently completed Command of the 930th Digital Liaison Team in Homestead, located in Florida's 26th Congressional District. COL Conn is currently assigned to JIATF-S as a Reserve Officer, in the Policy and Plans Directorate. COL Conn is also currently employed in his civilian capacity, as a Special Agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration, in Key West, Florida—also located in the 26th District. COL Conn resides with his wife Mindy in Key West, Florida. They have two children, Emily and Joshua.

It is an honor for me to recognize a man who has served our country with such distinction.

U.S. ARMY 1ST ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

HON. ROGER W. MARSHALL

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, more than 3,000 soldiers with the Army's 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division are headed home to Fort Riley this month after a nine-month deployment in South Korea.

Also, known as the "Devil" brigade, these soldiers have been stationed in South Korea since October of last year. During their deployment, these American soldiers have trained closely with their South Korean partners, deterring North Korean hostility and providing security in the Korean peninsula. Their service is invaluable.

These Soldiers and families sacrifice greatly during deployment. As the "Devil" brigade begins their journey back to Fort Riley, may I be the first to thank them for their service and say, "welcome home."

HONORING DR. VIVEK MURTHY FOR HIS INVALUABLE WORK AND DEDICATION AS THE 19TH U.S. SURGEON GENERAL

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the outstanding service and accomplishments of Dr. Vivek Murthy, who served as Surgeon General from 2014 to 2017. His dedication to protecting the public health of our nation is an inspiration for us all. The lives of millions of Americans across the country are better because of his public service. Throughout